

1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: COMP-2019-104 CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293

TITLE: Alleged Abuse and Violation of Policy

CASE AGENT (if different from prepared):

COMPLAINT INITIATION

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data	
TBD	Washington, DC	CSB	

On July 8, 2019, the Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by office at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying for the personal internet service of an employee for several years in violation of established policies. The documents attached pertained to the allegation.

This complaint is being initiated to assess the allegation in order to determine a viable plan of action.

Attachments:

1. Hotline Referral 2019-0293/Dated: June 27, 2019



2019-0293 Hotline Referral.pdf



2019-0293 FY17 Budget.pdf



2019-0593 FY19 Budget.pdf



CASE #: COMP-2019-104 PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: COMP-2019-104 CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293

TITLE: Alleged Abuse and Violation of Policy

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

PREPARED BY: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY INTERVIEW

NARRATIVE:

On July 16, 2019, Specia	1 Agent (SA) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Wash	ington Field Office (WFO),
	OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG),	Environmental Protection
	cally contacted (b) (6) , (b) (7)	
	al Safety and Hazard Investigation Boar	
	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) availability to meet with SA	
1 1 1	r a CSB employee's personal internet se	rvices. A non-verbatim account
of the conversation with	is presented below.	
when te <u>lew</u> orking,	, CSB. SA (b) (6)	y for (b) (7)(C) confirmed the y for (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) internet service vice at home, and to do (c) job en asked why
CASE:	INTERVIEWEE (if applicable)):
COMP-2019-104	(b) (b), (b) (1)(C)	
DATE OF ACTIVITY:	DRAFTED DATE:	AGENT(S):

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contains information protected by the Privacy Act and is FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. Disclosure of this report to

July 16, 2019

unauthorized persons is prohibited. See 5 U.S.C. 552a.

Released via FOIA EPA-2021-001142

July 16, 2019

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The interview with (b) (6) (b) (7)(c) was scheduled for Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 2:00PM.

CASE: COMP-2019-104

DATE OF ACTIVITY: July 16, 2019

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INTERVIEWEE (if applicable):

DRAFTED DATE: July 16, 2019

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

CASE AGENT (if different from prepared):

Subject(s)

CASE INITIATION

Location

Washington DC

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	washington, DC	СЗБ
Inspector General (OIG), Environ complaint via the hotline (2019-0 violation of policy by (CSB). According to the informat been paying for the personal interestablished policies. A preliminar an internet connection at the private CSB. The request was	Field Office (WFO), Office of Invented Protection Agency (EPA), 293) reporting an alleged abuse of at the U.S. Chemical Safety and H ion contained in the anonymous heat service of an employee for several service of this complaint reverse (BS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7) (C) CSB, restricted residence of (b) (6), (b) (7) (granted and for the last seven year violation of the CSB Telework Protection (BPA).	received an anonymous government funds and azard Investigation Board otline complaint, the CSB has veral years in violation of vealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(c) quested that the CSB pay for (C) rs the CSB has been paying for
On August 6, 2019, the above refe	erenced complaint# COMP-2019-	104 was converted into an

The documents attached pertain to the allegation.

results of the preliminary inquiry.

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

investigation to effectively investigate potential criminal activity related to the allegation and

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Other Data

CSB

Attachments:

1. Hotline Referral 2019-0293/Dated: June 27, 2019



2019-0293 Hotline Referral.pdf



2019-0293 FY17 Budget.pdf



2019-0593 FY19 Budget.pdf



CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101



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1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

PREPARED BY: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY CASE TITLE CHANGE

NARRATIVE:

On August 6, 2019, the above referenced complaint# COMP-2019-104 was converted into an investigation (b) (5)

As such, the official case title of the above referenced case, OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101, changed from "Alleged Abuse and Violation of Policy" to "(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al." This change complies with OIG Procedure 206, Section 5, "Titling Investigations."

CASE:

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

DATE OF ACTIVITY:

August 6, 2019

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INTERVIEWEE (if applicable):

N/A

DRAFTED DATE:

August 6, 2019

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 CROSS REFERENCE #:

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

PREPARED BY: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY RECORDS REVIEW

NARRATIVE:

As background, the Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying for internet connection at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB.

On January 14, 2020, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WFO, OI, OIG, EPA, conducted a review of documents associated with said allegation. First, SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) reviewed (b) (5), (b) (7)(E)

CASE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

DATE OF ACTIVITY: 1/14/2020

DRAFTED DATE: 1/14/2020

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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(b) (5), (b) (7)(E)

Second, SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(c) reviewed CSB's Board Order 037, "Telework Program," which under section expenses subsection b, states that "the CSB is not permitted to reimburse employees for personal expenses, such as increased home utility bills, that may result from telework." Further, subsection c states,

The CSB is currently unable to pay for the installation of telephone or data lines in the private residences of teleworking employees. The CSB is also unable to pay the charges for personal telephone and data services (including internet service providers) used to perform work while teleworking. Employees should use their government cell phone when their official duties require them to make toll calls. (Attachment 2 contains additional information).

Third, SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) reviewed a memorandum entitled, "Telework & Internet Access for dated February 2, 2012. The memorandum was sent by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), CSB to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), CSB,

requesting that the CSB pays for the installation and monthly services of internet connection at the residence of (Attachment 3 pertains).

Fourth, SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) reviewed an expense report which details the expenses incurred by the CSB related to payments for internet services at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) residence. The expense report shows that the CSB reimburses quarterly by local voucher, for the amount of \$171.80 plus an \$8.00 voucher fee. (Attachment 4 contains additional information).

Attachments:

1. (b) (5), (b) (7)(E)



2. CSB's Board Order 037 Telework Policy

CASE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

CSB, et al.

DATE OF ACTIVITY: 1/14/2020

DRAFTED DATE: 1/14/2020

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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3. Memorandum, entitled "Telework & Internet Access for (b) (6), (b) (7)(c) "/Dated February 2, 2012



4. Expense Report/dated July 17, 2019



CASE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

DATE OF ACTIVITY: 1/14/2020

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

DRAFTED DATE: 1/14/2020



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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: (b) (6), (b) (7)

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2019 1:26:00 PM



As discussed, the CSB received a complaint about the agency paying for your internet connection. Paying for the connection was approved in 2012 by prior management and has continued to date without re-evaluation. Current management determined that the agency will no longer pay for your connection, largely because internet connections are more pervasive (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

Once the OIG complaint is resolved, if it is allowable the CSB should be able to pay for service through today. I am sorry to deliver this news and let me know if you have questions.





1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

August 8, 2019

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Special Agent in Charge Federal Bureau of Investigation 601 4th Street NW Washington, DC 20535-0002

 $_{\text{Dear}}$ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002, we are notifying your Agency of a new case which may be of interest to your organization:

Date Opened:

August 6, 2019

Subject Names:

o) (6), (b) (7)(C) _{GS-15}, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) _{U.S.} Chemical Safety

Board (CSB)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

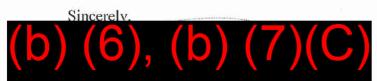
EPA OIG Case Number:

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

EPA OIG Case Agent:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Washington Field Office

If you or your staff have any questions, or wish to discuss this case in further detail, please contact SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) or myself at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



Assistant Special Agent in Charge Washington Field Office



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 CROSS REFERENCE #: COMP-2019-104

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

PREPARED BY: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY INTERVIEW

NARRATIVE:

On August 6, 2019, Special Agents (SAs) (b) (b), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (b), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigation (OI), Office of Inspector
General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Washington, DC, conducted the audio
recorded interview of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Washington, DC. The purpose of the interview was to obtain information regarding an allegation
that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) , CSB, requested that the CSB pay for
internet services at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(c) Said request was granted, and for the last
seven years the CSB has been paying for the internet services use at the (b)(b)(b)(c)(c)(c) residence in
violation of the CSB Telework Program, Board Order 037, last amended on February 1, 2016.
Prior to commencing the interview, SAs agents with the EPA's OIG by presenting their credentials for review. Subsequently, SAs of the recording of the interview, obtained to the recording of the interview, of t

CASE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

CSB, et al.

DATE OF ACTIVITY: DRAFTED DATE: 08/06/2019

08/06/2019

AGEN1(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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The information presented in this report is a summary of interview and is not intended to be a verbatim account, nor does it memorialize all the statements made during the interview. Communication by the parties' present were electronically recorded, and the recording captures the actual words spoken and was uploaded to the electronic case management system.

In reference to the allegation under investigation, explained that the CSB started to pay for internet services on or about 2012, when was approved for telework (b) (6), (b) (7)(0) . According to at the time, internet connectivity was slow in neighborhood which prompted manager, (b) (6) to ask if needed internet to be paid; from there on, the CSB has paid for internet services at stated that when residence. using the internet services for work, and family use the services for various purposes. stated that the service subscriber is added that submits a voucher to the CSB for pays the monthly bill, and on a quarterly basis reimbursement.

During the interview, was presented with two documents for review, labeled exhibit 1. Attachment 2 pertains.

Attachments:

1. Acknowledgement of Rights (b) (c), (b) (7)(c) /Dated August 6, 2019



2. Local Voucher, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Dated August 12, 2019



CASE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CSB, et al.

DATE OF ACTIVITY: 08/06/2019

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): NA

DRAFTED DATE: 08/06/2019

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293 **CASE** #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY **PRESENTATION**

NARRATIVE:

The Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the
hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by
at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying for the
personal internet service of an employee for several years in violation of established policies. A
preliminary assessment of this complaint revealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, requested that the CSB pay for an internet
connection at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) , CSB.
Said request was granted, and for the last seven years the CSB has been paying for the internet services of in violation of the CSB Telework Program, Board Order 037, last amended on February 1, 2016.
On October 25, 2019, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WFO, OI, OIG, EPA, telephonically discussed the above matter with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Duty Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA). Fraud and Public Corruption Section, Washington, D.C.

CASE:

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

DATE OF ACTIVITY: October 25, 2019

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INTERVIEWEE (if applicable):

N/A

DRAFTED DATE: October 29, 2019

AGENT(S):



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY PRESENTATION

NARRATIVE:

The Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General
(OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the
hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by
at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the
information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying for the
personal internet service of an employee for several years in violation of established policies. A
preliminary assessment of this complaint revealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CSB, requested that the CSB pay for an internet
connection at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) , CSB.
Said request was granted, and for the last seven years the CSB has been paying for the internet
services of in violation of the CSB Telework Program, Board Order 037, last amended
on February 1, 2016.
On October 25, 2019, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WFO, OI, OIG, EPA,
telephonically discussed the above matter with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Duty Assistant United
States Attempty (AUSA) Frond and Public Compution Section Weshington D.C.
States Attorney (AUSA), Fraud and Public Corruption Section, Washington, D.C.

CASE:

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

DATE OF ACTIVITY:

October 25, 2019

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INTERVIEWEE (if applicable):

N/A

DRAFTED DATE:

October 29, 2019

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293 CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY **DECLINATION**

NARRATIVE:

The Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying for the personal internet service of an employee for several years in violation of established policies. A preliminary assessment of this complaint revealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, requested that the CSB pay for an internet connection at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Said request was granted, and for the last seven years the CSB has been paying for the internet services of in violation of the CSB Telework Program, Board Order 037, last amended on February 1, 2016.
On October 25, 2019, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WFO, OI, OIG, EPA, telephonically discussed the above matter with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Duty Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA), Fraud and Public Corruption Section, Washington, D.C.
On October 25, 2019, stated (b) (5), (b) (7)(E) and declined to accept the case for prosecution.

CASE: INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

DATE OF ACTIVITY: October 25, 2019

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DRAFTED DATE: AGENT(S): October 29, 2019



1301 CONSTITUTION AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 CROSS REFERENCE #: Hotline 2019-0293

TITLE: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

INTERVIEWEE (if applicable): N/A

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY DECLINATION

NARRATIVE:

The Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspectors (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). Accomformation contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB has been paying personal internet service of an employee for several years in violation of established preliminary assessment of this complaint revealed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, requested that the CSB pay for an interconnection at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Said request was granted, and for the last seven years the CSB has been paying for a services of in violation of the CSB Telework Program, Board Order 037, last on February 1, 2016.	t via the of policy by ording to the ag for the d policies. A net, CSB. the internet
On October 25, 2019, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WFO, OI, October 25, 2019, Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Duty Assistant States Attorney (AUSA), Fraud and Public Corruption Section, Washington, D.C.	, ,
On October 25, 2019, stated (b) (5), (b) (7)(E) to accept the case for prosecution.	and declined

CASE:

OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101

DATE OF ACTIVITY:

October 25, 2019

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INTERVIEWEE (if applicable):

N/A

DRAFTED DATE:

October 29, 2019

AGENT(S): (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Thursday August 6, 2019-10:03AM WFO Interview Room (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
	Carrity varnings administered at 10:11AM signed
-	was approved for tederark (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
	at time of approval intervet connection in reighborbood
	after 2 years (b) (6), (b) (7)(c) asked if needed internet paid and internet in neighborhood had improved
	but was provided a reinbursenent for internet every north since 2012.
	traditionally but due to metro shutdown, beleverks days.
	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) family uses the internet on days that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) does not believer K.
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Than (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is the subscriber on the intervet account.
	dd via FOIA FPA_2021_001142

chenical screty board

(6), (6) (7)(C) knows about the televerk but does not know it

in detail.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

(6), (b) (7)(c) stated that it has a night decision to allow (6), (b) (7)(c), (b) (6) the reinbursement of intervel bill.

(6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

(6), (b) (7)(C), (b)

(b)	(6),	(b)	(7)	(C)
\	())		\ - /	\

are sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

will review vouchers before they

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (5)

(agent note: Recorder died at 10:45a)

(Resuning interview at 10:46 am)

Interview ended 10:56 AM

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DATE: February 24, 2020 **PREPARED BY:** SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0101 CROSS REFERENCE

TITLE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) GS-15, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CSB, et al.

CASE CLOSING REPORT

(C) (b) (7)(C)		
(6), (b) (7)(C)	Washington, DC	

VIOLATIONS: 18 U.S.C § 641 – Public money, property or records

ALLEGATION: On July 8, 2019, the Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), received an anonymous complaint via the hotline (2019-0293) reporting an alleged abuse of government funds and violation of policy by at the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB). According to the information contained in the anonymous hotline complaint, the CSB, specifically, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) authorized payments for internet services at the private residence of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (CSB).

DISPOSITION: No further investigative action is warranted. This investigation is hereby closed.

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Released via FOIA EPA-2021-001142

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